

CLAIMS

1. A wireless networked cash management system, comprising:

at least one cash handling device for performing at least one of the operations of coin sorting, coin dispensing, note counting, note dispensing, note sorting and cash redemption;

a control unit for performing with respect to the cash handling device at least one of the operations of accounting for cash dispensing, providing for cash settlement, monitoring maintenance information and providing commands for operation of the cash handling device; and

wherein said cash handling device and said control unit communicate through a wireless communication network operating according to a standard for locally distributed wireless networks.

2. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the cash handling device is a coin handling device for performing at least one of the operations of coin sorting and totalizing, coin dispensing and cash redemption.

3. The cash management system of claim 2, further comprising a currency handling device for performing at least one of the operations of note sorting and totalizing, note dispensing and cash redemption, wherein said currency handling device and said control unit communicate through the wireless communication network.

4. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the cash handling device is a currency handling device for performing at least one of the operations of note sorting and totalizing, note dispensing and cash redemption.

5. The cash management system of claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, further comprising at least one I/O device selected from a group consisting of: a printer, a scanner, a visual display, a keyboard, a cell phone, a pager, a personal digital assistant and a personal computer.

6. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the control unit is electrically connected to a second network selected from a group consisting of: the Internet, an intranet, a LAN and a WAN.

7. The cash management system of claim 6, wherein the second network utilizes at least one of a telephone dial-up modem, a digital satellite link modem and a broadband cable modem.

8. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates according to the Bluetooth specification.

9. The cash management system of claim 8, wherein the wireless communication network further operates according to the RS-232 protocol.

10. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates in a frequency hopping, spread spectrum range of frequencies in a range from 2.4 Ghz to 2.56 GHz.

11. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates in an infrared

frequency range according to the IrDA standard.

12. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates in a piconet distinguished from other networks by a selected frequency hopping sequence.

13. A wireless networked cash management system comprising:

a control unit including a radio frequency transceiver and antenna; and

a cash handling device, the cash handling device including a radio frequency transceiver and antenna for communicating cash handling data and status data to the control unit.

14. The cash management system of claim 13, wherein the transceiver of the control unit and the transceiver of the cash handling device each comprise a Bluetooth radio.

15. The cash management system of claim 13, wherein the transceiver of the control unit and transceiver of the cash handling device operate in the infrared frequency range according to the IrDA standard.

16. The cash management system of claim 13, wherein the cash handling device is a coin handling device for performing at least one of the operations of coin sorting, coin dispensing and cash redemption.

17. The cash management system of claim 13, wherein the control unit comprises a computer.

18. The cash management system of claim 13, further comprising computer peripheral I/O device which is at least one of a printer or a visual display.

19. The cash management system of claim 13, wherein the cash handling device performs at least one of the operations of coin counting, coin sorting and totalizing, coin dispensing, note counting, note sorting and totalizing, or note dispensing.